

know what this is?" Bull smiled.

Jimmy knew what it was. Many times before, Bull had lit one inches from Jimmy's face. Sometimes Bull pushed the flame against Jimmy's skin; sometimes he was content to let go of Jimmy and stand and laugh as Jimmy dashed away from Bull towards safety.

Now Bull lit the match with his thumbnail. The pain throbbed harder and harder and deeper and deeper within Jimmy. Bull moved the burning match closer to Jimmy's face. He bent his fat face down before Jimmy's, so that the match was directly between the two faces.

The match moved closer. Then it touched Jimmy's nose. He jerked in pain, but he couldn't free himself from Bull's grasp. Bull laughed. Then he pushed the match harder against Jimmy's skin.

Jimmy wanted to know why Bull did these things to him. He wanted to know why Bull liked to make the pain hurt more and more. He couldn't stand it any longer. He clutched his tiny fingers against his small palm. He couldn't see the flame any more, or the figures of his classmates. He could only see Bull's face.

Jimmy swung his fist into that face. The second graders barely saw the movement, it was so swift. But they heard the sickening crunch of smashed and broken bones. Bull crumpled to the ground without a sound. He didn't move; or breathe.

Jimmy looked at Bull for a long time: then slowly he rubbed his hand. It didn't hurt at all. Then he walked to the school. After that, no one bothered him anymore.

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## Words of Truth

Ronnie Grey

**T**HROUGH the Crusade for Freedom several million ordinary Americans are waging their own cold war across the border that divides the Soviet satellite empire from free Europe. Are you one of these freedom-loving persons?

The results are distinct and impressive. The Crusaders have been able to disclose Red secret agents, to embolden a quarter-million Hungarian farmers to quit their collectives and demand rights as free farmers, to give a powerful assist to the collapse of the Polish Ministry of Security Police. The Crusade, sponsored by the American Heritage Foundation, was organized in support of a simple theory—that the truth can defeat a lie wherever the two can be pitted in fair combat. On the strength of this theory—and of the dollars supplied by individual Americans who have faith in it—one of the most eccentric and effective communications systems of all history has been built and put into operation.

The foundation's operational arm, the Free Europe Committee, has encircled the satellite empire with five radio stations—the Radio

Free Europe network. Through twenty-nine powerful transmitters these stations beam the words of truth to the people of Czechoslovakia, Romania, Poland, Hungary, and Bulgaria.

These words of truth shoot across the borders in a steady barrage—truth gathered by a fully developed intelligence network, and from thousands of eager refugees; truth voiced by exiled Poles to captive Poles, Czechs to Czechs, Hungarians to Hungarians; truth hurled specifically and tellingly against the lies spread by the Communist propaganda organs.

Into the satellite countries the committee also showers truth in leaflets carried by ingenious balloons, timed to drop their freight over the heavily populated districts. It also conducts, among its other activities, the Free Europe University in Exile for refugee students.

Communist governments have lodged vehement protests against Radio Free Europe and the Free Europe Press—misspent protests, since the Crusade is strictly a private enterprise (a fact difficult for the Reds to understand).

Radio Free Europe has been subjected to the most vigorous and persistent jamming operations—sabotage efforts which have been surmounted by “saturation” broadcasts in which identical messages are transmitted simultaneously over all twenty-nine transmitters.

Red fighter planes have scrambled up to engage the leaflet-bearing balloons, and a secret Red agent has confessed a plot to demolish a balloon launching station. No better testimonials could be proffered to the unfaltering success of the Crusade for Freedom.

This Crusade intends to stir no massive uprising in the teeth of the Communist military; it intends to cement the will of the captive millions to fight their captors in the only effective way now open to them—by quiet, passive resistance, and by clinging to the faith that so long as freedom survives anywhere on earth and is cherished in their own hearts and memories, there persists the chance that they will one day recover it.

The Crusade for Freedom carries its indispensable message directly from one freedom-loving people to another, unhampered by diplomatic restraints and governmental fetters. To push on to the fulfillment of its mission, the Crusade needs the financial support of many more millions of Americans.

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## Meet Mike

Kathy Winnefeld

**T**HE door slams; the house vibrates; muddy boots tramp their soggy way across kitchen linoleum; Comanche calls blast the plaster from an undecided crack in the ceiling, and a burred head accompanied by a hand plunges open the bedroom door. My Pen